

the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) and the Export-Import Bank (EXIMBANK) from providing any assistance to countries that subsidize their steel industries. The Steel Financing Fairness Act also instructs the Secretary of the Treasury to reduce America's contribution to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by a prorated share of the IMF's assistance to countries that subsidize their steel industries.

No one can doubt that the United States steel industry is in crisis. Approximately 15 million tons of flat-rolled capability (20 percent of the existing domestic capacity base at the start of 2000) was closed in the 18 months from September 2000 to December 2001. The decline of the steel industry has a human cost: in just the last five years, 30,000 Americans once productively employed in the steel industry have joined the ranks of the unemployed.

One of the problems facing America's domestic steel industry is that it must compete with foreign industries that receive subsidies from their governments. Some of these subsidies are explicitly intended to provide these companies with a non-market advantage over American steel producers. The U.S. Government further compounds the damage caused by these subsidies by forcing the domestic steel producers to support their major competitors through taxpayer-funded programs.

For example, according to the most recent figures available, the eight countries with the greatest EXIMBANK exposure are all among the top ten exporters of steel and/or steel products to the United States. In fact, EXIMBANK has provided over \$250 billion of U.S. taxpayer support to these countries.

Meanwhile, OPIC has provided over \$3 billion of the taxpayers' money to seven of the top ten leading steel exporters. Thus, the American taxpayer has provided at least \$253 billion worth of support to the countries that are the leading competitors of the domestic steel industry. This does not count the funds provided these countries by the IMF. Since money is fungible, the practical effect of providing aid to countries which practice industrial policy is to free up resources these governments can use to further subsidize their steel industries. Thus, taxpayer dollars sent to foreign governments and industries can benefit foreign steel manufacturers even if American taxpayer money is not sent to directly benefit those industries.

However, hard as it may be to believe, organizations funded by American taxpayers actually use American tax dollars to directly assist foreign steel producers! For example, among the projects funded by EXIMBANK in recent years is an \$18 million loan guarantee to expand steel manufacturing in Red China.

Ironically, many of the supporters of these foreign giveaways claim to be promoters of free trade. This claim makes as much sense as a supporter of higher taxes and spending claiming to be a fiscally conservative supporter of limited government. Free trade is the peaceful exchange of goods and services across borders unhampered by government interference. Taxing American workers to support their overseas competitors is not free trade. Instead, it is corporatism designed to benefit certain politically powerful interests at the expense of American entrepreneurs and workers.

I have no doubt that America's steel industry can out-compete the steel industry of any

country if allowed to compete on a level playing field. Unfortunately, due in part to government policy, today's playing field is in no way level. Congress must end this economically destructive, immoral, and unconstitutional policy of forcing owners and workers in the domestic steel industry to subsidize their competitors. I therefore call upon my colleagues to cosponsor the Steel Financing Fairness Act.

GIVE PEACE A CHANCE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor His Holiness Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet for his efforts promoting dialogue to bring peace to Tibetan lands and an end to oppression. His presence here on Capitol Hill today should be a reminder to all—that dialogue makes firm the roots of peace and without it tyranny takes hold.

His Holiness is a figure of pure inspiration. He speaks on love, war, peace, hate, economics and other subjects, but he continually comes back to individual responsibility. The individual is the root, the base, the foundation of family, community, society, and country, and all things good must begin with the individual. There is much good each American can do to promote world peace if we take to heart the Dalai Lama's teaching.

I would like to commemorate the Dalai Lama for his continued pursuit of peace in Tibet, the Middle East, and other war-torn places around the globe, and for the goodness that he imbues in all of us. He challenges us to search for the better, and in that search, we inspire others. This body politic must recommit itself to the pursuit of peace at home and abroad.

HONORING SELMA FISCH

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very dear friend of mine, Selma Fisch, who despite being born in August celebrates her 70th birthday on September 13 because she was characteristically too busy last month.

Mrs. Fisch was born Selma Schenker on August 11, 1933, in Brooklyn, New York. At sixteen years old, she and her family moved to California and settled in Boyle Heights, an area that my family is very familiar with.

Soon after graduating from Roosevelt High School, she met and married her husband of 51 years, Len Fisch.

Selma and Len have three children—Laura Anne, William Daryl, and Lisa Kennedy. Over the years her family has grown and prospered and she is now the proud grandmother of six granddaughters and four grandsons.

In 1972, she and her husband Len started a wholesale clothing company, The Clothing Game, on Santee Street in Los Angeles.

A few years later, they bought and developed their first property on nearby Maple Ave-

nue. Originally built to house The Clothing Game, the property was instead redeveloped into six individual clothing stores. The ownership of this building began their successful career as full time property managers. Their foresight and influence helped produce the now nationally famous "Fashion Alley", spanning Maple Avenue and Santee Street.

Throughout the 80's and 90's, Selma and Len continued to buy and develop prime properties throughout the Los Angeles Garment District.

During these years the area experienced such a boom that local officials and the Los Angeles Police Department struggled to provide adequate services. In response to the area's growing needs, Selma, in conjunction with other property owners, formed the Santee-Maple Alley Association to provide additional maintenance and safety officers throughout the Alley area.

In 1991, working closely with my former State Assembly office and the office of the 9th Council District, Selma was instrumental in obtaining a pedestrian crosswalk for a very busy area of the Alley.

Over the years, she has continued to work to ensure that the area remains attractive to consumers by resurfacing the alley hardscape, replacing area storm drains, adding attractive alley banners, and increasing the number of maintenance workers and security officers.

Selma has been a member of various women's political groups, such as AIPAC and WINPAC, which serves to better the United States' international relationship with Israel, and is currently a member of the Republican Jewish Coalition.

Mr. Speaker, it is my greatest pleasure to honor Selma Fisch for her years of service to our community, and to wish her a very happy 70th birthday.

SEPTEMBER 11—A TIME TO REMEMBER OUR HEROES

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, not all American heroes make headlines. In fact, most don't. They don't seek the spotlight and they don't need slaps on the back. American heroes go to work every morning, do a good job and provide for their families.

We celebrate our heroes on Sept. 11, just as we mourn the innocent victims of that day.

Sept. 11 marks a time when Americans grieve and remember our terrible losses. But it's also a time when we celebrate the patriotism, courage and valor of public servants and extraordinary citizens.

Heroism manifested itself that day in people from all walks of life. Travelers flying from New Jersey to California said goodbye to their loved ones, prayed together and one said, "Let's roll!" Hundreds knowingly sacrificed their lives so that hundreds more in our nation's capital could live.

Police and firefighters in New York City ran up the stairs of the twin towers. Looking to save lives, they lost their own.

Today, we honor our heroes, those who perished in the line of duty, and those who proudly serve us today.

Our U.S. soldiers continue to serve our nation and the world, from the soaring mountains of Afghanistan to the searing deserts of Iraq. Georgians have played a proud and important role in the war on terror, as have the state's military bases such as Fort Benning in the 11th Congressional District.

Other men and women in uniform, firefighters and police officers in the 11th District [or insert county here] serve us every day on the homefront.

We thank our everyday heroes for all their dedication to their communities and to their country. We honor soldiers, firefighters and police officers today as we remember those who died two years ago.

THE ALMOST FORGOTTEN

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday evening, I had the honor of giving out several medals to WW II Veterans and their families—Nick Cavallaro, Leon Andrews, Frank Barber, and Charlie Giardina in Corning, NY.

On the wall behind us was a battle scene and under it were the words: "The United States is #1 because of its veterans." It was a haunting reminder of how much we owe to those who leave their families, their friends, and go off to defend the idea of freedom which, of course, is the reason for this country being what it is.

There is not a family that has not been touched by some sort of wartime heroism. The flashbacks of those honored veterans of Crystal City Post 524—headed by Doug Herbert and Mike Asiello—still light up the world of those of us coming from WW II. But right now, boys and girls, men and women are fighting for us in Iraq and around the world. We are so proud of them. They embody the same spirit of those older men and women, some of whom went off to war over 60 years ago.

God Bless them—God Bless those who risk everything for this special country of ours.

TRIBUTE TO ALEX MACHASKEE, THE 2003 INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alex Machaskee, President, Publisher, and Chief Executive Officer of the Cleveland Plain Dealer, as the 2003 International Business Executive of the Year.

On Thursday, September 18th, 2003, Mr. Machaskee will be recognized for his ongoing contribution to broadening Northeast Ohio's role in the international community. He has energized the business community by catalyzing civic leaders to attract international companies to Northeast Ohio as well as link Ohio to the people of other nations. I want to take this opportunity before this body to honor him and to say a few words about why he is deserving of this incredible distinction as a global citizen.

Born in Warren, Ohio, Mr. Machaskee worked as a sports reporter and general assignment reporter for the Warren Tribune before joining the Plain Dealer. As President, Publisher and C.E.O., he is responsible for the overall policy, operation, and direction of the newspaper. He is a graduate of Cleveland State University with a bachelor's degree in marketing. Mr. Machaskee was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters by both Cleveland State University in 1995 and the University of Akron in 1998. He was recognized for his tireless passion and talent in 2001 with his induction into the Northeast Ohio Business Hall of Fame.

Mr. Machaskee has demonstrated unflagging leadership in the improvement of Northeast Ohio. He currently is Vice President of the Musicial Arts Association, serves on both the Board Governance and the Finance and Administration Committees of The Cleveland Foundation, is a member of The Greater Cleveland Roundtable and The Museum Council of The Cleveland Museum of Art, a Corporate Member of The Holden Arboretum and a Board Member of The Ohio Arts Council, Leadership Cleveland, University Circle Inc., Cleveland Tomorrow, The Great Lakes Science Center, The Greater Cleveland Growth Association, Urban League of Greater Cleveland, Crime Stoppers of Cuyahoga County, Inc., St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, in Crestwood, New York, and the national board of the International Orthodox Christian Charities.

Additionally, Mr. Machaskee is committed to improving racial amity and promoting diversity. He is the Chairman of the Board of United Way Services for 2002–2003, and previously served as Chairman of the 2000–2001 United Way Campaign. Mr. Machaskee is past Chairman of the Greater Cleveland Roundtable, a racially and culturally diverse civic forum committed to resolving the human relations challenges confronting the city.

Mr. Machaskee has been a critical community partner for many years through his energetic leadership helping to improve and promote the economy of Northeast Ohio. Many throughout the years have appreciated his service and dedication. Let us congratulate him on being honored as International Business Executive of the Year. This award duly recognizes his commitment and service to Northeast Ohio.

IN MEMORY OF SEPTEMBER 11TH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, two years ago, we all watched in horror as television cameras brought us the terrible scenes from New York, as we could see the smoke rising from the Pentagon, and as we learned of acts of terrorism and heroism over the skies of Pennsylvania.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends who lost loved ones that day.

September 11th will remain forever seared into our memories. Today, we pause to remember all those who were lost and all those who rushed into burning buildings to try and save those trapped inside.

So many losses, so many funerals, so many families denied even that small consolation.

The losses are so great, it's hard even to comprehend them. One of those lost was Wanda Green, who was a flight attendant on United Flight 93 and a cousin of my chief of staff, Sandre Swanson. I remember Wanda tonight as I remember all those killed that terrible, terrible day.

Most Americans believe that we will face more acts of terrorism. Sadly, I believe they are right.

We have to do all we can to try to ensure our security here at home.

We need to do everything possible to safeguard the world's known stockpiles of chemicals, biological, and, God forbid, nuclear weapons and materials. We need to protect our own plants, bridges, and ports.

And we need to make sure that our first responders have the tools, the equipment, and the training to do their jobs. We ask them to risk their lives for us. The least we can do is to give them the means to do it.

I leave you with the words of Tom Paxton describing both the awful loss and the awesome courage at the World Trade Center and elsewhere that day:

"Now every time I try to sleep I'm haunted by the sound, of firemen pounding up the stairs while we were coming down."

When we ask men and women to pound up the stairs into the face of death and danger, we must give them every bit of support that might help.

In the memory of all those we lost two years ago today, let us renew our commitment to safeguarding our communities.

My thoughts and prayers to out to the parents and children; husbands, wives, and partners; and family and friends of all those who lost loved ones in those awful events.

Thank you, and I yield back the balance of my time.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL AND MINOR LEBLOND

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dan and Minor LeBlond, friends and distinguished constituents, who will receive the Jacob E. Davis Volunteer Leadership Award from the Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) on September 15, 2003. To commemorate the joint 40th anniversaries of GCF and Stepping Stones Center for the Handicapped, four awards will be presented this year honoring volunteers who have played vital roles in the overlapping histories of these outstanding organizations.

Dan is a native Cincinnatian, and is being recognized for his 15 years of service to GCF. He joined GCF as an Associate Director in 1988, serving in that role until GCF's volunteer and staffing structure changed in 1994, when he became a member of the new Grants Review Committee and served until 2003.

Among his many community leadership roles, Dan has been a board member of American Red Cross; Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Cincinnati, Inc.; Cincinnati Country Day School; Cincinnati Institute for Fine Arts;